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Docket No. 740756-2296

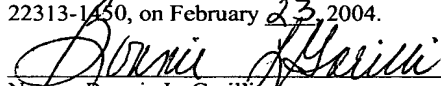


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Hisashi OHTANI et al.)
Serial No. 09/837,552) Examiner: N. D. Richards
Filed: April 19, 2001) Group Art Unit: 2815
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND MANUFAC-) Confirmation No. 7555
TURING METHOD THEREOF)

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 23, 2004.


Name: Bonnie L. Garilli

REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

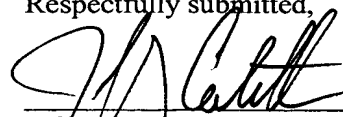
Sir:

An Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449 was filed in the above-identified patent application on July 14, 2003. Applicants have not yet received back from the Examiner a copy of the Form PTO-1449 initialed to acknowledge the fact that the Examiner has considered the cited disclosed information.

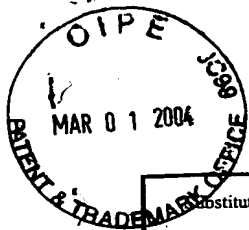
The Examiner is requested to initial and return to the undersigned a copy of the subject Form PTO-1449.

Should there be any questions concerning this communication, please telephone the undersigned at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


Jeffrey L. Costellia
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Institute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/837,552
Sheet 1		of 1	Filing Date	April 19, 2001	
			First Named Inventor	Hisashi OHTANI	
			Art Unit	2815	
			Examiner Name	N. Drew Richards	
			Attorney Docket Number	740756-2296	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-2002/0093019 A1	07-18-2002	Hirabayashi et al.	
		US-2003/0038303 A1	02-27-2003	Hashimoto et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

7/14/03